

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the first regular meeting on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Diana Martinez, Mayor
Pete Morales, Mayor Pro-Tem
Trino Medina, Commissioner
Pilar Garza, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

Robert De La Garza, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Luciano Ozuna, Jr., City Manager
Cris Palacios, City Attorney
Martha Alvarado, Executive Secretary
Bobby Salinas, C.P. & D. Director
Melisa Gonzales, Special Projects Director
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer
Julio Villarreal, Public Works Director
Roy Contreras, Fire Chief
Alicia Cano, Human Resources

Yvette Mendoza, Finance Director
Baudelio Castillo, Police Chief
Michael Torres, IT
Arnold Robles, Parks Director
Lori Solis, Library Director
Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director
Alex Oyoque, Museum Curator

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the first regular meeting held on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 to order at 7:00 pm at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. Mayor Diana Martinez led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Melisa Gonzalez said invocation.

C. Presentation and Announcements.

Melisa Gonzalez announced and invited everyone to the following:

- *Fire Prevention Rally at Peter Piper Pizza on Oct. 17 from 6 to 8 pm*
- *Candy giveaway at Police Dept. on Tuesday, Oct. 30 from 5 to 7*
- *Halloween Carnival on Wed. Oct 31 at Central Park beginning at 5:30 pm*

Commissioner Trino Medina announced he would have tickets for the Oct. 18 Chamber of Commerce BBQ plate sale.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales congratulated the lady Wolverines volleyball team and wished them well in the playoffs.

D. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for second regular meeting of Tuesday, August 21, 2018. (Tabled: 9/4/18 and 9/18/18)

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded to remove item from table. Motion carried. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales requested Item T. on August 21 minutes be corrected to reflect he had abstained from voting due to conflict of interest. With no additional comments, Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded to approve the minutes for August 21, 2018 as corrected. Mayor Diana Martinez stated she would abstain due her not being present at the meeting. Motion carried.

E. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for first regular meeting of Tuesday, September 4, 2018. (Tabled: 9/18/18)

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded to remove item from table. Motion carried. Commissioner Trino Medina motioned and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded to approve the minutes for September 4, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

F. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for special meeting of Tuesday, September 25, 2018.

Commissioner Trino Medina motioned and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded to approve the minutes for September 4, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

G. Consideration and action on a proclamation declaring October 23-31, 2018 as “Red Ribbon Week”.

Melisa Gonzalez informed the Mayor & Commissioners this was the standard proclamation approved every year. This year's Red Ribbon Week Parade will be hosted by City of Pharr on October 27. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded to declare October 23-31, 2018 as “Red Ribbon Week”. Motion carried.

H. Consideration and action to set salary for the Municipal Court Assistant Clerk.

City Manager, Luciano Ozuna, Jr., informed Mayor and Commissioners that Municipal Judge, Celia Garcia, had submitted a request proposing to hold off on the creation of a second assistant clerk position and instead approve a \$2 increase to the current assistant clerk. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked what the savings would be to which Mr. Ozuna replied it would be about \$12,000 savings to the city if approved. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded to approve the \$2 increase for the Municipal Court Assistant Clerk and hold off on the creation of a second assistant clerk. Motion carried.

I. Consideration and action on a contract with Carlos Colina-Vargas to prepare and submit a grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

No action taken.

J. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT UNDER THE URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 32 (2019).

Mayor Diana Martinez announced this was a public hearing.

Anita Jenny and Faviola Ramirez, Amigos del Valle representatives, addressed the Commission regarding their request. This year, Amigos del Valle is requesting \$9,000 for hot meals to be delivered to eleven Alamo elderly residents. She stated that there are actually thirty-five residents on their waiting list but due to lack of funds, they are only able to service eleven. Ms. Jenny and Ms. Ramirez went on to explain the program's purpose and mission. Commissioner Trino Medina requested a list of the Amigos del Valle Board of Directors. Ms. Jenny invited Mayor and Commissioners to participate in the National Meals on Wheels March for Meals event in March. This is an event where elected officials participate in delivering the meals to the homebound residents.

Bobby Salinas, CDP Director, informed the public of the ongoing city projects funded through the Urban County Program which are mostly public utility improvements.

For the record, Mr. Salinas informed the Commission that Safe Haven for Kids had delivered their \$20,000 fund request for an emergency shelter for abused and neglected children.

K. Consideration and action regarding an inter-local agreement with Hidalgo County for the Urban County Program allocation for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Planning Director, Bobby Salinas, informed the Commission this was the agreement through which the city receives its funding allocation. The city's allocation for FY 2018-19 is approximately \$266,440. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded to approve an inter-local agreement with Hidalgo County for the Urban County Program allocation for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Motion carried.

L. Consideration and action to approve an organizational chart for the City of Alamo.

Commissioner Trino Medina motioned and Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales seconded to table the item. Motion carried.

M. Consideration and action to set salary for the Police Department Sergeants.

Police Chief, Baudelio Castillo, informed Mayor & Commissioners there had been some miscommunication regarding the proposed \$4,000 salary increase for the Sergeants but since then

had met with finance and was now requesting approval. The total of \$24,000 for the salary increase would be deducted from the fuel line item in the budget. Chief Castillo stated without the \$4000 increase, the sergeants would only be receiving about \$1 increase in the new fiscal year. Commissioner Trino Medina said he was glad Chief had brought it up because the sergeants that have been with city for years, would have not seen any increase. City Manager, Luciano Ozuna, Jr., stated the correct amount for the increase would be approximately \$27,500 including taxes and fringe benefits. Mayor Diana Martinez asked Chief Castillo if all sergeants had been with the department longer than five years to which Chief Castillo replied only two did not have over five years. Chief corrected himself and said only Sgt. Solis has been with the department less than the five years but all other have been there ten years or more. Those sergeants with over ten years will also receive the longevity pay. Commissioner Trino Medina motioned and Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales seconded to approve the \$4,000 salary increase for the Police Department Sergeants. Mayor Diana Martinez and Commissioner Pilar Garza voted against. At this time, Commissioner Trino Medina asked Mayor Diana Martinez and Commissioner Pilar Garza why they opposed giving the sergeants the raise. Commissioner Trino Medina said Sgt. Solis was one of the officers attacking the drug dealers in Alamo and could not understand why the opposition to giving him a raise. Mayor Diana Martinez recommended approving \$4000 for the sergeants with over ten years with the city and giving Sgt. Solis an increase of \$1000 since he has been with the department less than six months. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked Mayor Diana Martinez if she had something against Sgt. Solis to which she stated no she did not but was only making the recommendation in all fairness to the rest of the sergeants. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales said these are sergeants that protect and serve the community but yet a raise was being denied. Mayor Diana Martinez said she believed they deserved a raise but was only recommending the \$1000 for the sergeant that had been with the city less than six months. Chief Baudelio Solis stated he had made the decision to promote Sgt. Solis due to his ten years law enforcement experience. Sgt. Solis has served with the US Marshalls and Chief Castillo said he believed Sgt. Solis deserved to be part of the team. Commissioner Trino Medina asked Mayor Diana Martinez if she was for the drug dealers to which she responded she was not and was only saying that senior staff be given the \$4000 raise and give Sgt. Solis \$1000 based on his time with the city. Chief Baudelio Castillo stated Sgt. Solis has more experience than some of his other sergeants and that a difference could be seen in his department. Commissioner Trino Medina said Commissioner Pilar Garza might change her mind. Commissioner Pilar Garza agreed to give \$4000 to those sergeants that have been with the city over ten years and to give \$2000 to Sgt. Solis because the other officers might notice that. Commissioner Trino Medina said Sgt. Solis was in charge of the drug task force and risks his life on a daily basis and even receives death threats. He said they would be doing a disservice to Sgt. Solis and the community by not giving him his rightful pay. Commissioner Trino Medina also said this would be sending the drug dealers the wrong message. Chief Baudelio Castillo said the department has been very aggressive and that Sgt. Solis was the leader of the major crime's division. They have seen positive results and even placed Alamo on the map. Commissioner Trino Medina stated Commissioner Pilar Garza was on their side now and motioned to approve a \$4000 increase for the all the Police Department Sergeants. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales seconded. Mayor Diana Martinez voted against. Motion carried.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Five minutes per person with no response from the City Commission.

None

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.


Diana Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Luciano Ozuna, Jr. City Manager

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